

N7 95(c)

April 21, 1941

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George Jean LIPSMAN, Rumanian by birth but French by naturalization, arrived in Shanghai in January 1941 from Calcutta where for some five years he was General Manager of the Far Eastern Hotels, Ltd. For many years prior to that appointment he was general manager of the Ritz Hotel in Paris. He is an accomplished restaurateur and has been in the hotel business for many years in various parts of Europe and the East.

He is said to have left India on account of ailing health. He has been appointed General Manager of the Cathay Hotels Ltd. on probation for three months only and is replacing Mr. Sutor, former General Manager who recently proceeded to the United States. Until Mr. Sutor makes known his future plans - whether to return to Shanghai or not - Lipsman's appointment will remain purely on probationary lines.

Mr. Telfer has not been replaced and still occupies his former post at the Cathay Hotel.

Lipsman's task is one connected with the reorganization of the Cathay Hotels Ltd. from a financial standpoint, it being an accepted fact that the Cathay Hotels Ltd. has, for a number of years, been conducted at a loss.

D.C. (Division)



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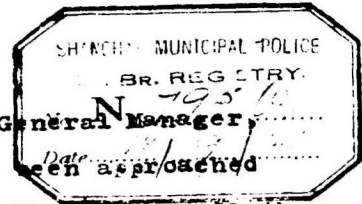
SHANGHAI TIMES

APR 20 1941

CATHAY HOTELS HEAD



Mr. George Jean Lipsman, the
new General Manager of Cathay
Hotels, Limited.



Information has been obtained from Mr. Lipsman, General Manager, Cathay Hotels Ltd., that Sir Victor Sassoon had been approached by the Japanese who asked him if he would be willing to sell the Cathay Hotel, Nanking Road. Sir Victor replied that he was willing to sell and when asked the price gave the prohibitive price of 1,000,000 pounds sterling. Mr. Lipsman stated that he was certain that the strike had been engineered by the Japanese with the object of reducing the value of the property and inducing Sir Victor to sell at a price acceptable to the Japanese.

It was further revealed that Mr. Lipsman had received a telephone call from the Chief of the French Police Political Section informing him that the strikers were prepared to accept all conditions, as laid down by Mr. Lipsman, and to resume work. Mr. Lipsman stated in reply that he was willing to interview the delegates only on condition that they were prepared to accept his conditions. He was assured of this fact and at 5.30 p.m. 29-8-41, the delegates came to see him and flatly refused to have anything to do with his conditions.

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To see & thereafter
pass to Commr.*



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